

DAY 1: SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER

Lockdown? Some are still figuring out what it means

Are some open businesses stretching definition of ‘essential’ service?



DAI SUGANO — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Her chairs stacked up on tables, Crema Coffee Roasting Co. manager Dzong Lam waits for customers to buy takeout orders on Tuesday in San Jose, as the first day of sweeping shelter-in-place restrictions are put into place.

By John Woolfolk, Julia Prodis Sulek, Nico Savidge and Thomas Peele
Staff writers

Cafes Tuesday were still serving, businesses from electric carmaker Tesla to some marijuana and gun retailers were still operating — to the alarm of some workers — and people bustled about on the streets.

So just what does it mean to be on lockdown? On the first day of the Bay Area’s shelter-in-place order, residents and businesses alike were still trying to figure out what the new stay-home mandate means to their daily lives — with some pushing the boundaries.

Health officers in Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Cruz



ANDA CHU — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Daniel Xie, wearing a mask, waits for a BART train on a nearly empty platform at the Union City station on Tuesday.

counties imposed the shelter-in-place order overnight in an unprecedented bid to keep the deadly coronavirus pandemic from spreading, overwhelming hospitals and potentially killing thousands of people.

San Mateo County Counsel John Beiers said Tuesday that compliance so far has been encouraging, though he added that the county has set up a call center after fielding dozens of calls, mostly from businesses wondering if the

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Most taxpayers OK’d to file by April 15 but pay later; ride-hailing services nix ride sharing for now. C7

order applies to them.

“A lot of people have a lot of questions, naturally,” Beiers said. “So far generally people understand the importance and urgency of doing their part. What we’re seeing so far ... has been really encouraging if not inspiring.”

The order, in effect through April 7, limits activity, travel and business functions to “only the most essential needs.” County officials said people should stay at home, leaving only for necessities like food, medical care, outdoor exercise, or to go to jobs deemed es-

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CORONAVIRUS

Newsom: Schools likely out until fall

As cases rise, three more Northern California counties added to shelter-in-place order

By Casey Tolan and Paul Rogers
Staff writers

Most of California’s schools could remain shuttered for the rest of the school year as the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread across the state, Gov. Gavin Newsom warned Tuesday.

More than 98% of California’s student body — about 6.1 million students — have had their classes canceled so far, Newsom said. While many school districts have only announced closures for a few weeks, Newsom said it was unlikely that most would open again before their summer breaks in May or June.

“Don’t anticipate schools are going to open up in a week,” he said in a news conference at the state’s emergency headquarters. “It’s unlikely that many of these schools — few if any — will open before the summer break.”

“Boy, I hope I’m wrong, but I believe that to be the case,” based on experts’ assessments of the level of social distancing required to beat back the growing epidemic, Newsom added.

Due to the shutdowns, California has requested a federal waiver that would allow the state government to not require standardized testing this year. Students “already have enough anxiety” as it is, Newsom said.

Beyond schools, the Bay Area’s unprecedented shelter-in-place order expanded to three more counties Tuesday, placing a vast swath of Northern California under virtual house arrest.

Monterey, Sacramento and Sonoma counties joined the seven others that had already ordered residents to stay home for the next three weeks except for essential activities, leaving highways nearly empty on Tuesday and shuttering thousands of Bay Area businesses.

The number of coronavirus cases in California had reached 472 statewide as of Monday night, about a 17% increase from the previous day, Newsom announced, adding that 11 people had died from the virus in total.

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PGA Championship slated for San Francisco’s Harding Park in May has been postponed. C1
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SEEKING IMMEDIATE SUPPORT

Trump on economic stimulus package: ‘We want to go big’

Checks could be sent directly to consumers within weeks

By Alan Rappeport, Emily Cochrane and Nicholas Fandos
The New York Times

WASHINGTON » President Donald Trump called on Congress on Tuesday to quickly approve a sweeping economic stimulus package that would include sending checks directly to Americans within weeks, as large sections of the economy shut down in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

“We want to go big,” Trump said at a news conference at the White House, adding that he had instructed Steven Mnuchin,



EVAN VUCCI — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, right, listens as President Donald Trump speaks during a news briefing with the coronavirus task force Tuesday at the White House in Washington.

the Treasury secretary, to introduce measures that would provide more immediate economic support over the payroll tax cut holiday that he had been promoting.

Mnuchin told Republican

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SHELTER-IN-PLACE MANDATE

Alameda County shuts down Tesla’s factory line

Move comes hours after Musk told workers the plant would remain open

By Rex Crum and David DeBolt
Staff writers

In a major test of the Bay Area’s shelter-in-place edict, Alameda County on Tuesday evening deemed Tesla’s Fremont factory a “nonessential” business — hours after Chief Executive Elon Musk opened the plant and told his employees he would continue working despite a seven-county shutdown of virtually all major workplaces aimed at slowing the spread of the coronavirus.

“If Tesla was a hospital, if Tesla was a laundromat, if Tesla was a mechanic shop, we wouldn’t be having this conversation,” Alameda County spokesman Sgt. Ray

Kelly said. “But Tesla makes cars, and that’s not essential for us to get through this health crisis.”

Musk had told employees that he would “personally be at work” despite the ongoing coronavirus crisis.

Musk had said that while the company’s factory would remain open, Tesla workers should put their health first and that it was “totally OK” for employees to stay home.

“I’d like to be super clear that if you feel the slightest bit ill or even uncomfortable, please do not feel obligated to come to work,” Musk said in his email. He added that, “the best of our knowledge, no one at Tesla (over 56,000 people) has tested positive for COVID-19.”

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